

MINUTES
Academic Affairs Committee
November 13, 2000

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Council on Postsecondary Education met November 13, 2000, 8:30 a.m. (ET), Morehead State University, Adron Doran Center, Riggle Room, Morehead, Kentucky.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Chair Norma Adams, Shirley Menendez, Peggy Bertelsman, Philip Huddleston, Lee Todd, Lois Weinberg, Gene Wilhoit.

*APPROVAL OF
MINUTES*

The minutes of the July 17, 2000, Academic Affairs Committee meeting were approved.

*ADULT
EDUCATION
STRATEGY AND
BUDGET
RECOMMEN-
DATIONS*

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The staff recommends that the council approve in concept An Agenda for Adult Education in Kentucky. This will meet the directive of Senate Bill 1, which is to establish a statewide mission for adult education and to develop a 20-year strategy in partnership with the Department for Adult Education and Literacy.

The staff recommends that the council approve the Adult Education Action Plan, authorizing the release of the designated portion of the Adult Education and Literacy Trust Fund for Fiscal Year 2000-01.

The staff recommends that the council authorize the staff to implement the Adult Education Action Plan.

MOTION: Ms. Adams asked for a motion to discuss the recommendation. It was so moved and seconded.

DISCUSSION: Cheryl King, council staff, introduced Deputy Commissioner Reecie Stagnolia, Department of Adult Education and Literacy, and Ben Boggs, council staff. Ms. King explained that the plan being considered comes from the nine-point plan that was presented to the council July 2000. At that time, council members approved nine areas of focus for the plan. Today, specifics and recommendations for five of the nine areas of that plan will be presented.

Since July, over 20 groups have provided input into development of the action plan. A strategic planning group, consisting of about 70 individuals from across the state, representing government, education, business, and industry, has met twice to provide guidance.

Today, one recommendation is for the council to approve Attachment A (provided in agenda book), which forms the basis of a strategic agenda.

Attachment A is not a recommendation for funding. It is the vision and mission for adult education. From this document, a more detailed plan will be developed—similar to the council’s *2020 Vision* document.

Also, the council is asked to approve Attachment B (provided in agenda book), which authorizes the release of funds from the Adult Education trust. The council is asked to authorize up to \$6.1 million (in Attachment B). Specific budget recommendations are given in each of the five areas of the nine-point plan.

The key elements of this plan focus on providing incentives and rewards for adult education providers. It creates clear enrollment goals, as well as performance measures and goals.

This is not the complete plan. This is the first part of the plan for expenditures for this fiscal year. Staff will return to the council in spring 2001 with additional plans for expenditure of the \$12 million from the trust fund for the next fiscal year. Staff is working within state and federal parameters of rules for using adult education funds. The challenge is to blend new state funds that flow to the council with the existing state and federal funds within the DAEL.

Ms. Adams asked about the phrase, “fund up to a certain amount.” Is it correct that the council would authorize use of funds up to that amount and expenditures would not require any further action by the council? Ms. King explained that \$7 million is appropriated for this fiscal year. The recommendation is an expenditure of up to \$6.1 million by June 30, 2001. The unexpended funds would carry forward and be incorporated into the next fiscal year.

Ms. Menendez asked if the targeted percentage of individuals to be served is ambitious enough. Ms. King said that the staff hopes to exceed these percentages and looked at several factors in establishing enrollment goals. The national average of adults served is about 8 percent. Kentucky’s programs are reaching about 5 percent of the target population. The goal is double that number, from 51,000 to 100,000 by 2004 and to reach 300,000 people by 2010.

Ms. Bertlesman asked if since about 90 percent of adults operating at literacy levels one and two are working, the allocation of “up to \$500,000” for Economic Development and Workforce Training is enough. Ms. King said, “No, it’s not enough, but it’s enough to get us started this fiscal year.” Staff will come to the council in spring 2001 with a recommendation for additional allocations for next fiscal year. Ms. Bertlesman asked if the bulk of the funding would go to the adult education provider sector. Ms. King said that our ability to meet these

enrollment goals would hinge in large part on workplace education. Mr. Boggs will discuss the Workforce Alliance, which is an effort to bring employer and education groups together. Family literacy and workplace education are two areas where there will be tremendous gains. Ms. Bertlesman commented that there would be only six months for this. Ms. King said that is why the request is just \$500,000—for start-up. Last year in workplace programs, 3,300 people were served and we must reach more than that.

Ms. Menendez asked what percentage of the 800,000 are high school dropouts. Ms. King said that almost 900,000 Kentuckians age 25 and over are without a high school diploma.

Ms. Bertelsmann said that since low literacy is a major problem for Kentucky and given that postsecondary education has been handed this challenge, she suggests that the universities and the independent colleges be directly involved in solving the problem. Many educators would welcome the opportunity to teach adults. The council has funded programs of distinction that should have a role in this effort. The council also has funded regional education centers that would be appropriate as sites for delivery of adult literacy education. One of the indicators of success will be how many go on to postsecondary education. For those in literacy level one, that would be quite a stretch. However, if they improve their literacy level, they also would be able to advance and improve the economy of Kentucky. For those who need this upgrading and the GED, Ms. Bertlesman suggested that the council explore ways to be sure that the current postsecondary sites have a direct role in the delivery of basic adult education so that college becomes a familiar place for the students. That way, when they get to the point to be able to take college courses, it will be a smooth transition.

Ms. Bertlesman offered an amendment that would approve the recommendations, with the exception of items two and nine in Attachment B. This would allow the council an opportunity to discuss how postsecondary institutions can be more involved. Staff can come back to the council in February. The motion was seconded.

In the discussion on the amendment, Ms. Adams asked for an update on the regional centers. Mr. Davies responded that none of the regional centers are operating now. They are being planned or are under construction. Cooperation level in the regional centers is quite good between the community and technical colleges and the comprehensive universities. There is a new development in Hazard, with Hazard Community and Technical Colleges along with MoSU and ECU creating a university “without walls.”

Ms. Adams asked if Senate Bill 1 has a timetable for achieving goals. Ms. King said no; the only timeline is the 20-year strategic agenda. Mr. Davies commented that money was appropriated for the first and second year and this indicates that the first year was not intended simply for planning.

Ms. Adams asked if postsecondary institutions are involved in current planning. Mr. Boggs said that the KCTCS and particularly ECU and MoSU were very involved. Other institutions have been somewhat involved.

Lois Weinberg commented that, in Hindman, the integration for GED planning, adult literacy, community and technical colleges has been “hand in glove.” A student from one of these literacy programs would simply be moved to another level to take more courses.

Ms. Adams asked Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary Allen Rose for comments. Mr. Rose said that he had thoroughly studied the plan. The number one priority for him is adult education. The plan, as he understands Senate Bill 1, is on target. We need a variety of ways to meet the needs and develop people for the workforce. It is a very good plan, and we should not spend the first year planning. The cabinet is very committed to adult education and literacy and will proceed as soon as given the go-ahead.

Mr. Huddleston asked about the effect of delays of some allocations until February. Ms. King said that every Kentucky county has adult education and literacy services. In many counties (65 at least) those services are provided through local boards of education. About nine to 12 county agencies are working directly with the KCTCS. Another four are working with regional or comprehensive universities. Two are with county fiscal courts. There are a few community-based organizations. Providers change over time because they are selected through an RFP process. Local providers submit proposals to the DAEL for funding. The providers for this year and next year are set. This is done through a federal planning process and we must submit these plans to the federal government for approval. Federal law requires that funds be made available on a “direct and equitable access.” Funds must be made available and appropriate entities can request to become a provider through the RFP process. We must work in those parameters, but our goal is to provide the highest quality services possible.

Ms. Bertlesman asked if the funding were to start in February rather than January, would that create a significant problem. Ms. King said that the foundation funding and the rewards would need to be available for the providers for this fiscal year. The New Opportunity grant is a way to begin providing additional funds to providers. The longer we wait the less time

they will have to put staff in place and advertise services. Time is of the essence.

Mr. Todd asked for further explanation of part nine in the recommendation on Base Funding, Performance, and Rewards. Ms. King said that one part of the recommendation is the foundation funding. A statistical analysis revealed that 64 counties in Kentucky are much less funded than others. The proposal provides a planning process to provide equitable funding as called for in Senate Bill 1. "Level of need" is determined by the number of people in that county at literacy levels one and two. Funds would come from this fiscal year's funds but would be available next fiscal year. The grant amounts have already been set for every county.

Ms. Weinberg commented that while programs need funds, they also need other resources. In the postsecondary system, we have many resources. Part of the council's responsibility is to make sure that those resources are made available. Ms. King said next fiscal year, staff will bring a plan that utilizes those resources, especially in the areas of research and professional development.

Jim Applegate said an RFP will be sent seeking proposals for a public communications campaign. Faculty from various universities have been involved. Ben Boggs mentioned that MoSU has proposed a master's in adult education.

Ms. Menendez commented that it seems that adult education has made an effort to deliver the services in many ways with a variety of agencies. Ms. King said that a variety of people is served with diverse needs, so various approaches are needed. We need to develop postsecondary's role, as Ms. Bertlesman suggested, and to build on workplace education. The problem requires a multi-faceted strategy.

Ms. Weinberg said that in Knott County the Hindman Settlement School has an adult education program. The only funds they have are for a small staff and very few materials. They have no funding for transportation and other needs. They have 300 students and are doing all they can. An increase in funding would help them to reach more people. Mr. Stagnolia said Hindman is a good example of how Kentucky's programs have built community support.

Ms. Adams asked if there were further questions. Mr. Todd asked Ms. Bertlesman for suggestions to involve the regional centers, postsecondary institutions, and the programs of distinction between now and February if funding were delayed.

Ms. Bertlesman said that she envisioned the institutions having an opportunity to participate in the New Opportunity grants. Between now and February, staff should work directly with the institutions and report on suggested ways in which they can participate (before February's meeting). She suggested that staff look at programs of distinction to find ways they can have a role in adult education. Although the regional centers are not operational yet, the council might direct that when they are operational they be adult education sites. The council might also direct that there be more collaboration between the independent and public sectors. She would like to see the decision made in February so the council can get more input from the institutions.

Mr. Davies said it is important that the staff get this process started by the end of this calendar year. He asked the council to please consider whether there are ways in which the council could authorize these two kinds of grants and still require work with postsecondary institutions in ways that were acceptable to the council. He noted that some people expressed concern that adult education money would go entirely into higher education. The plan is constructed so that this money funds the efforts of adult education providers and higher education.

Mr. Huddleston said initially that the proposal appeared vague but that discussion has clarified some areas. He felt that there was no advantage to delaying until February.

For New Opportunity grants in particular, Mr. Applegate asked if it would be helpful if the RFPs are advertised to all postsecondary institutions that are eligible to provide services.

Ms. Adams noted that the staff recommendation is broken into three components. The last is to authorize staff to issue an adult education action plan, Attachment B. Ms. Adams, as chair, will combine all three recommendations into one motion. But first, a vote on the amendment would be conducted.

Amendment to Recommendations: Approve the Adult Education Action Plan (Attachment B in agenda book), with the exceptions of numbers two and nine, with directions to staff to explore involvement of postsecondary education institutions and staff. This information is to be brought back to the full council no later than February.

AMENDMENT VOTE: The amendment failed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Council discussion continued. Ms. Bertelsman requested that the council look at programs of distinction to see how they can have a role. Mr. Todd said that the state has done itself a disservice in economic development by not involving higher education. We have allowed every county to build industrial recruitment sites to bring jobs here that we are losing within 10 years. In adult education, higher education must be involved, including the programs of distinction. Performance criteria are a must.

Ms. Adams said some council members did not have time to discuss this topic individually with staff. With something so important, broad, costly, and different in focus as this, there should be a meeting of the academic affairs committee two weeks or more before the actual council meeting.

Mr. Wilhoit asked to comment. As he read the plan, there are two issues we should pursue further. In the plan the number of Kentuckians served is mentioned. "Served" – what does that mean? Hopefully, as the action plan is implemented measures of service will move it from an input measure to a performance based accountability measure. Second, the word "supplement" is used in item six on technology and distance learning. He would like to see a more aggressive virtual learning program, moving from supplemental stages to a major delivery system. Ms. King said the staff has talked with Linda Pittinger, Virtual High School, and is working with Mary Beth Susman with the Kentucky Virtual University.

*KCTCS PROGRAM
APPROVAL
AUTHORITY
REAFFIRMATION*

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council reaffirm the delegation of program approval authority to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System Board of Regents for all new certificate, diploma, and associate programs offered by the KCTCS technical and community colleges.

MOTION: Ms. Adams asked for a motion to discuss the recommendation. It was so moved and seconded.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Applegate introduced Chancellors Keith Bird and Tony Newberry, KCTCS.

Jim Applegate stated that the council had delegated the KCTCS program approval authority until December 31, 2000, with continued authorization dependent on a review of their program approval process. Council staff met with the KCTCS staff and reviewed and evaluated their process. Based on documentation provided by the KCTCS, council staff recommends that program approval authority be reaffirmed. Chancellors Bird and Newberry were available to answer questions.

Ms. Adams asked the chancellors if they are satisfied with the process. The chancellors responded that they are extremely pleased with it. They

offered a detailed summary of the KCTCS efforts to develop strong collaborative academic programs.

Mr. Huddleston commented that this delegation of authority is correct. He asked that the staff report enrollment statistics regularly to the council on new programs the KCTCS institutes and old programs that are discontinued. This is not an amendment, just an informal request.

Ms. Menendez complimented the KCTCS on this process.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

*REACTIVATION
OF SUSPENDED
PROGRAMS*

RECOMMENDATIONS: The staff recommends that the council approve the following:

That effective June 1, 2001, academic programs suspended for longer than five years be subject to the council's program approval policies when proposed for reactivation. (Programs suspended in response to the council's current program productivity review already are subject to the new program approval process and action by the council before reactivation.)

That to reactivate suspended programs before June 1, 2001, institutions must submit information about them to the Kentucky Postsecondary Program Proposal System for a 45-day review.

MOTION: Ms. Adams asked for a motion to discuss the recommendation. It was so moved and seconded.

DISCUSSION: Jim Applegate presented this agenda item. Currently our process for reactivating suspended programs allows institutions to do so at any time. Recently, there have been instances in which institutions requested to reactivate programs that had been suspended for 18-20 years. If a program were suspended more than five years it would require new faculty and new resources, so that really it is a new program and should be treated as such.

VOTE: The recommendation passed unanimously.

*PROGRAM
APPROVAL:
MASTER OF
EDUCATION
IN EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATION*

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council change the approval status from provisional to regular for the Master of Education in Education Administration programs at Eastern Kentucky University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University.

MOTION: Ms. Adams asked for a motion to discuss the recommendation. It was so moved and seconded.

DISCUSSION: Jim Applegate, council staff, introduced Diane Abell, MoSU. Ms. Abell worked with the group that developed the collaborative program. Mr. Applegate met with the group several times and said they have worked aggressively to pull together their courses offerings.

Ms. Adams said that it is one of the first programs in which the council directed collaboration. Ms. Bertlesman said that she worked with Ruth Greenberg at the time to call together all of the principles involved in making this work and is pleased with the collaborative effort. She asked about the turnover rate for principals statewide. Mr. Wilhoit estimated a 15 percent turnover in superintendents, with principals a little higher. It is a major issue.

Ms. Bertlesman asked if there could be modifications to assistant principalships as one way to solve the problem of turnover. Ms. Abel said they are not just looking at degrees as an end point. There will be a meeting in December or January to develop a joint proposal for alternative certification programs in education administration. There also will be a conference in February at MoSU to look at recruitment and retention for both teachers and school administrators.

VOTE: The recommendation passed unanimously.

*CENTER FOR
MIDDLE SCHOOL
ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT*

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council select Eastern Kentucky University and Murray State University as the site for the Center for Middle School Academic Achievement.

MOTION: Ms. Adams asked for a motion to discuss the recommendation. It was so moved and seconded.

DISCUSSION: Jim Applegate presented the item for discussion. Kentucky Department of Education funds are used for this project. An RFP was issued and proposals were received and reviewed.

Ms. Menendez asked how other universities would be involved. Dianne Bazell said other universities could offer programs collaboratively with these two. Also, programs will be offered on line, allowing involvement by other colleges.

VOTE: The recommendation passed unanimously.

*EISENHOWER
MATHEMATICS
AND SCIENCE
EDUCATION
FUNDS*

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council award federal Dwight D. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education funds in the amount of \$742,409 to support the projects for October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001.

MOTION: Ms. Adams asked for a motion to discuss the recommendation. It was so moved and seconded.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Adams asked how the projects were selected and reviewed. Jim Applegate and Dianne Bazell explained that a statewide RFP was issued. The review team included Kentucky K-12 teachers, college faculty (public and independent), and representatives of the private sector. The process assured that the disciplines of biology, physics, chemistry, mathematics, and computer science were represented. The RFP this year was written to support the CPE agenda. Interim reports are done by each funded project.

VOTE: The recommendation passed unanimously.

*STRATEGY FOR
STATEWIDE
ENGINEERING
EDUCATION IN
KENTUCKY*

Ms. Adams introduced the item for discussion. Dean Tom Lester (UK), Dean Martin Houston (WKU), and Dean John Majta (MuSU) presented.

Dean Houston provided a handout summarizing discussions in which many revisions were made to the agreement. It is still a draft. The deans and selected faculties and department heads from WKU met with UK and UofL.

Dean Lester noted the chief concern was how the programs are to be jointly administered. Also, faculty want to assure they have effective academic control over the joint program. They are hopeful this agreement will serve as a framework for other joint program agreements.

Faculty are defining a common core of courses that they can offer electronically or by other means to all participating institutions to economize as much as possible. Dean Lester said the group has been working with Tony Newberry and Gary Cox to create an enhanced pre-engineering program at the community colleges and independent institutions. Five of the independent schools have been identified where they hope to double the numbers of transfers into engineering. Dean Lester provided data defining the increase in engineering degrees needed to bring Kentucky to national averages.

Ms. Adams asked if there is a problem getting qualified students. Dean Lester said there are not enough high school students interested in engineering and qualified for the field. If students are not calculus ready when they enter college, they have less than a 10 percent chance of succeeding. Ms. Adams said we continue to talk about requiring four years of mathematics in high school.

Dean Houston said they pre-test students. If their ACT score is high enough they are automatically allowed to enroll in algebra or calculus. Sometimes students are required to enroll in remediation.

Mr. Wilhoit asked for the gender breakdown. Nationally, only about 20 percent of undergraduates in engineering are female.

Dean Majta said engineering programs at the regionals can be successful. He discussed several points of particular interest to MuSU. There is a joint program in Paducah with UK. MuSU wants to expand their engineering offerings. They will work on an agreement that will begin to develop joint programs in telecommunications and electrical engineering at MuSU and in environmental engineering.

Ms. Adams said it sounds as if there will be complete cooperation from ABET. SACS also is expected to cooperate.

Jim Applegate commented that in response to the council's concern, the council coordinated a conference on engineering that highlighted many of the issues of concern, including diversity, accreditation, and increasing the number of students in engineering.

*P-16 COUNCIL
YEAR IN REVIEW*

Ms. Adams introduced the agenda item for discussion.

Jim Applegate said P-16 is an advisory group. They helped to accomplish much this past year. An example is the GEAR UP grant, not only the state grant, but also the local initiative grants. The grant provides over \$30 million to help economically disadvantaged middle school children go to college. The state grant would not have happened had it not been for the P-16 Council.

Ms. Adams announced that there will be a joint meeting of the P-16 Council, Prichard Committee, and presidents facilitated by Jan Somerville of the National Association of System Heads, to discuss the high school senior year.

Lois Weinberg asked about new local P-16 councils. Ms. Adams responded that an example is the Northern Kentucky initiative. It is a model for local P-16 partnerships. She said each community college has been asked to contact one or more districts in their area and begin a local P-16 council. The P-16 Council is promoting local P-16 councils. Mr. Wilhoit commented that this will be on the December P-16 Council agenda.

Jim Applegate said we have to provide seed money to get local councils started. In addition, 38 to 40 GEAR UP partnerships are being formed,

which are comprised of a middle school, a postsecondary institution, and business and community partners. This can be a starting point for P-16 local councils. Mr. Davies said it is important that all of these regional activities have open communication with each other.

*PROGRAM
APPROVAL
UPDATE*

Ms. Adams introduced the agenda item for discussion.

Jim Applegate pointed out a minor error in the program approval activity chart on page 80. The physician assistant program, master's, should read "outside" the band. The process is working very well. Staff is working to increase the amount of comment and discussion regarding these programs via the Web.

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION: Lois Weinberg moved that the Academic Affairs Committee meet the middle of January to get an update on the adult education plan and anything that might be coming up at the February meeting. This motion was seconded.

VOTE: The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

James L. Applegate
Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs

Jerry Ann Warmouth
Secretary